AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 20, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 17 and ending on line 27 with the following amended paragraph:

The crude oligonucleotides were purified by polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis. The oligonucleotides, ranging in length from 9 to 84 nt and sharing 9 to 15 complementary overlapping bases, contained several repeat sequences such as CGGC (6 times) (SEQ ID NO.:1), GCGGC (3 times) (SEQ ID NO.:2), TCTGCGGCG (2 times) (SEQ ID NO.:3) and GCGCCCCGC (2 times) (SEQ ID NO.:4). Oligonucleotides phosphorylation was effected using bacteriophage T4 polynucleotide kinase (Gibco, Gaithersburg, MD, USA). Annealing and ligation was carried out with Ampligase TM DNA ligase (Epicentre Technologies, Inc. Madison, WI, USA).

Cloning of the ligated sequences: For direct cloning, the assembled blocks from the previous reaction were ligated to SmaI and SstI digested vector pGEM4Z using T4 DNA ligase at 16°C overnight.

Please insert the attached Sequence Listing as new page --31--.